(b) and (c). Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) which is not a Government organisation, led a high powered delegation to China between September, 13th and 20th, 1996. Besides attending the meetings arranged by the World Economic Forum, the delegation also met with representatives of the All China Federation of Industry & Commerce (ACFIC). Areas of discussion covered a wide range of topics such as agro products, auto components, marine products, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, refractories, electronics etc.

The Formal Report of CII about these discussions is still awaited, on the receipt of which appropriate action can be considered.

Powerloom Service Centres

511. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up powerloom service centres in the country during the Eight Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the locations of the proposed centres have been seleced;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the criteria for their selection;

(d) whether any priority has been given to those places where labourers have been rendered jobless owing to the closure of sick textile mills; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. During the Eight Five Year plan the following Powerloom Service Centres have been opened :-

S.No.	Year	Name of Place	Name of State
1.	1992-93	Bangalore	Karnataka
2.	1992-93	Komarapalayam	Tamil Nadu
3.	1992-93	Dholka	Gujarat
4.	1993-94	Sachin	Gujarat
5.	1993-94	Betagiri	Karnataka
6.	1993-94	Huzurabad (Karimnagar)	Andhra Pradesh
7.	1993-94	Bhiwandi	Maharashtra
8.	1994-95	Alwar	Rajasthan
9.	1994-95	Salem	Tamil Nadu
10.	1994-95	Somanur	Tamil Nadu
11.	1994-95	Pandesara	Gujarat
12.	1995-96	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
13.	1995-96	Kannur	Kerala
14.	1995-96	Bhagalpur	Bihar

The Locations of these Powerloom Service Centres have been decided on receipt of suggestions/proposals from State Governments and on the basis of areas of Powerloom concentration. These centres cover variety of functions such as training on loom maintenance, improve knowledge in weaving for producing better quality cloth, guide about modernisation, guidance on marketing and export opportunities through seminars and workshops, provide testing facilities, technical consultations, design development and diversification. These centres are used as nodal points for transmitting knowledge and technique through field visits and as co-ordinating points in bringing their problems to the knowledge of the State and the Central Government authorities. The powerloom service centres also popularise various schemes of Government of India like Life Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers, NABARD and SIDBI refinance scheme for modernisation and renovation of powerloom units.

[Translation]

Coloured Cotton Yarn

512. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide coloured cotton yarn to powerloom sector on concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to help the small powerloom who are facing hardship to get coloured cotton yarn for their industries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) No, Sir. The Central Government does not provide any coloured cotton yarn to powerloom sector at concessional rates.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of 'a' above.

[English]

Multilateral Agreement on Investment

513. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated its approach to multilateral agreement on investment (MAI) draft of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to safeguard the national as well as third world interests in the face of liberalised investment regime; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). India is not a member of the OECD and hence is

not associated with the negotiations of Multilateral Agreement on Investment being finalised in that Organisation. Any MAI which may be agreed upon by OECD countries, is not binding on India.

[Translation]

Law Courses

514. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have envisaged any plan to bring qualitative improvement in the law courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a high level institute for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b). The Bar Council of India has organised a consultative meeting of State Bar Councils, Universities, University Grants Commission and State Governments etc. in association with the National Law School of India University at Bangalore during 12-14 October, 1996 to ascertain their views to effect qualitative changes in the legal education.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

Closure of Coal Mines

515. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names and the number of coal mines under all the subsidiary units of the Coal India Limited which were closed down after the nationalisation of the coal industry;

(b) the reasons and dates of their closure;

(c) whether any of these coal mines have since been reopened;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of the coal mines which are proposed to be reopened in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c). At different points of time since nationalisation. 125 coal mines were closed in various subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL). The details of the closed mines alongwith the reasons for closure are given in the statement.

Since these mines were closed on account of exhaustion of extractable reserves in the working seams and non-viable stripping ratio in case of the opencast mines and safety reasons. none of the 125 closed mines could be opened so far.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer to parts (a) to (c) of the question.

(e) CIL does not have any proposal for reopening of any of these closed mines.

STATEMENT

Coal Mines closed since Nationalisation

S.No.	Name of Mine	Year of closure	Reasons of Closure
1	2	3	4
EASTERN COALFIELDS LTD.			
1.	Sanctoria	76-77	Exhaustion of Reserve
2.	East Jamehari	76-77	Exhaustion of Reserve
3.	Ratibati 5&6	78-79	Exhaustion of Reserve
4.	KLS Chalbalpur	81-82	Exhaustion of Reserve
5.	Chalbalpur Khas	80-81	Exhaustion of Reserve
6.	New Jameharikas	79-80	Exhaustion of Reserve
7.	Pure Searsole	78-79	Exhaustion of Reserve
8.	Damoda	83-84	Exhaustion of Reserve
9.	Seetaldasji	79-80	Exhaustion of Reserve
10.	Belrui disergarh	75-76	Exhaustion of Reserve
11.	North Brock	82-83	Exhaustion of Reserve
12.	Gogla/Adjoy Bank	79-80	Exhaustion of Reserve
13.	Manderboni 1, 2 & 4	75-76 & 92-93	Exhaustion of Reserve